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LETTER DATED 25 JANUARY 2000 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to bring to your attention the recent inauguration of the so-called Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC), which amounts to an attempt to legalize the terrorist separatist Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), and its drive to impose itself as a security factor in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia.

This intention is confirmed by the statement made by terrorists, members of the so-called KPC, at the ceremony in Pristina in the presence of Bernard Kouchner, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), and Klaus Reinhardt, Commander of the Kosovo Force (KFOR), to the effect that the so-called KPC's goal is to maintain security in the territory and protect the borders of Kosovo.

What this terrorist organization is after is to become a military force that would take security matters in this Serbian province into its own hands, contrary to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 and related documents that stipulate that the sole responsibility for these matters rests with the international security and civil presences.

This is borne out by the continued terror of the KLA, the entire personnel of which has been incorporated into the so-called KPC, against the non-Albanian population, resulting in the expulsion of 350,000 Serbs, Montenegrins and other non-Albanians from Kosovo and Metohija. The most telling evidence of the terror taking place in the presence of the international presences which have failed to demilitarize and disarm the terrorists was the shelling of the Serbian village of Caglavica near Pristina immediately after the inauguration of the so-called KPC.

By their tolerant attitude towards the KLA and, by extension, by their complicity in the commission of the most heinous crimes, as well as by establishing, inaugurating and running the so-called KPC, composed entirely of the members of the terrorist separatist KLA, KFOR and UNMIK have flagrantly violated their mandate, Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), and are

directly responsible for the disastrous security situation in Kosovo and Metohija and the escalation of terror ever since their deployment.

Bearing in mind the aforementioned, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia requests that the crimes committed by the members of the terrorist separatist KLA, transformed now into the so-called KPC, be condemned, that that terrorist separatist organization be fully demilitarized and disarmed, that its structures be disbanded and that its leaders who have committed numerous crimes against non-Albanians be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.